

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SANTO 05360 312138Z  
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-02 L-03 SS-15 SSO-00 CPR-01  
SY-05 USSS-00 PRS-01 PA-01 /043 W  
-----006389 312153Z /65-S  
O 312115Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1832  
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTO DOMINGO 5360

FOR WHITE HOUSE - PHIL WISE AND WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDIP, DR  
SUBJECT: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATY

REF STATE 205697

FOLLOWING IS INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM PRESIDENT  
BALAGUER, DATED AUG 31, REPLYING TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S LETTER  
TRANSMITTED REFTEL. LETTER WILL BE DELIVERED TOMORROW BY PAO  
HOLLEY BELL TO DOMINICAN DESK IN DEPARTMENT (ATTN HANSON):

BEGIN QUOTE:

DEAR MR PRESIDENT:

I HAVE THE HONOR TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE THOUGHTFUL  
MESSAGE WHICH YOUR EXCELLENCY SENT TO ME ON AUGUST 29, IN WHICH  
YOU KINDLY INVITE ME, IN YOUR NAME AND THAT OF GENERAL OMAR  
TORRIJOS, TO VISIT THE CAPITAL OF THE UNITED STATES ON THE  
OCCASION OF THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT WHICH PUTS AN END TO  
EXISTING DIFFERENCES REGARDING THE PANAMA CANAL BETWEEN THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE PANAMANIAN GOVERNMENT.

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I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT I WILL BE VERY  
GLAD TO ATTEND THE HISTORIC CEREMONY TO WHICH I HAVE BEEN KINDLY  
INVITED AND THAT I WILL BE PLEASED, AT THE SAME TIME, TO ACCOMMODATE  
THE GRACIOUS DESIRE OF YOUR EXCELLENCY TO MEET PERSONALLY WITH  
THE UNDERSIGNED TO DISCUSS ANY SUBJECT OF INTEREST AFFECTING  
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.

WHILE THERE NOW EXISTS NO CAUSE FOR DISAGREEMENT IN THE  
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THE FRIENDSHIP OF THE TWO  
PEOPLES IS DEVELOPING ON A BASIS OF EXTREME CORDIALITY, I  
HASTEN TO NOTE TO YOU,SKO RESPOND TO YOUR DESIRES, THAT THE NEW  
SYSTEM GOVERNING THE SALE OF OUR SUGAR IN THE UNITED STATES  
MARKET, THE ONLY MATTER WHICH NOW CONCERNS THE DOMINICAN  
GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE WHICH THIS  
PRODUCT HAS FOR THE NATION'S ECONOMY, WILL BE DEALT WITH AT THE  
GENEVA MEETING OF IMPORTING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES, AND  
WE HAVE NO DOUBT OF THE GOOD WILL AND SPIRIT OF MUTUAL  
COMPREHENSION WITH WHICH IT WILL BE RESOLVED ON THAT OCCASION. WITH  
REGARD TO OUR DESIRE TO HAVE RENEGOTIATED THE PUBLIC DEBT OF OUR  
COUNTRY, CONTRACTED UNDER PL 480 RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL  
SURPLUSES, IN ORDER TO EXTEND A BIT MORE THE TIME PERIODS  
ESTABLISHED FOR THE AMORTIZATION PAYMENTS, I MUST INFORM YOUR  
EXCELLENCY THAT THIS DESIRE OF OURS WAS PRESENTED PREVIOUSLY TO  
THE FORD ADMINISTRATION AND THAT WE HOPE, IF IT BE POSSIBLE,  
THAT THE GOVERNMENT PRESIDED BY YOUR EXCELLENCY WILL TAKE OUR  
REQUEST INTO CONSIDERATION IN VIEW OF THE RADICAL CHANGE  
INTRODUCED INTO OUR FOREIGN EXCHANGE AVAILABILITIES BY THE RISE  
IN PETROLEUM PRICES AND THE CRISIS WHICH THE SUGAR INDUSTRY  
IS UNDERGOING WORLDWIDE.

I TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE YOUR EXCELLENCY  
WARMLY, IN MY NAME AND IN THAT OF THE COMINICAN GOVERNMENT  
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AND PEOPLE, FOR THE HIGH SPIRIT OF EQUITY WITH WHICH YOU HAVE  
RESOLVED THE PROBLEM OF THE PANAMA CANAL AND OPENED WITH THIS WORK  
OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY A NEW ERA IN INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

SINCERENL6,  
JOAQUIN BALAGUER END QUOTE

AXELROD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TREATY SIGNATURE, CANALS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 31-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977SANTO05360  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770315-0615  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SANTO DOMINGO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977083/aaaaabyt.tel  
**Line Count:** 101  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** fa3a1054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 205697  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1503944  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SIGNING CEREMONY FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATY  
**TAGS:** PDIP, PPDC, DR, PQ  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fa3a1054-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009